

FOCUS

on Newport, Quendon, Rickling & Widdington

Lib Dem
46%

Con
39%

Votes cast at the last District Council elections. Labour have no councillors left here.

Only the Lib Dems can beat the Tories in Uttlesford!

Lab
just
5%

Green
1%



Winter 2006

Stansted Airport Application Refused



Liberal Democrat-led Uttlesford District Council has refused Stansted Airport's application to expand beyond 25 million passengers per year, increasing the number of flights per year allowed from the existing runway.

"This is the right decision for the local community, and the right decision for the global environment," said Liberal Democrat Councillor Peter Wilcock. "BAA's proposed increase in flights and passengers would have an unacceptable impact on noise levels, air quality and the overall quality of life. The Airport has also failed to produce adequate proposals to improve the rail service and failed to show how they would deal with increased road traffic."

It is likely that BAA will appeal against the refusal, but the Council will mount a robust defence of the decision it has taken.

Liberal Democrat Councillor Andrew Yarwood added: "All the work that has been done over the last six months, and the evidence that has been gathered, will put us in a strong position at a public inquiry."

New Newport Youth Club Opens



Cllr Andrew Yarwood and his team in Newport have succeeded in opening a new youth club in Newport. Jikes Youth Centre, based at Jikes Hall on Frambury Lane, was opened by Chris Smith (Chairman of Newport Parish Council) on the 27th September.

Andrew says that after over a year of very hard work we are open, every other week, on a Thursday Evening for young people aged 13 to 18. It is amazing to see what can be achieved by working together with all the agencies for the benefit of the whole community.

Bins Boost Recycling

The government's Audit Commission has praised Liberal Democrat-led Uttlesford District Council for introducing the new three-bin recycling system and for taking difficult decisions and 'bold steps'.

They said that the previous recycling system inherited from the last Tory administration was not good enough, with too much household rubbish being sent to landfill.

Lib Dem Cllr. Andrew Yarwood said: "The new system is already producing results, with a major reduction in the amount of refuse we send to landfill and a huge improvement in our recycling performance. I am delighted that the hard work of the Council in planning the new service has been recognised by the report."



Lib Dem councillor Andrew Yarwood says the new bins have helped local residents recycle much more.

Green Tax Switch

Liberal Democrats want to give the average family a £1,000 income tax cut to help save the planet.

The Lib Dems want to radically change the way Britain pays tax. Taxing good things - like income - less, and switching to taxing bad things - like pollution - instead.

The more you choose to switch to greener living, the less tax you pay.

While other politicians just talk about the environment, Lib Dem leader, Sir Menzies Campbell, has won praise for his green tax switch plan to actually do something to tackle growing climate chaos.

"The proposals include:

- Increase road tax on the most polluting cars to £2,000
- Increase tax on air travel
- Extend the Climate Change Levy across the whole economy
- Take low earners out of the tax system
- Cut taxes on middle income earners"

- BBC News Website

Liberal Democrats - First For The Environment

Tories Turn Lights Off

Here to help

Lower Cost Housing



Uttlesford District Council granted planning permission on 19th July for an affordable village housing project at London Road, Newport. The development has been researched and promoted by the Rural Housing Trust and is designed to meet the needs of local people who cannot afford the high cost of housing in the village.

Cllr Peter Wilcock, together with the late Cllr Bill Bowker, had promoted this through partnership with Newport Parish Council and Rural Housing Trust for many years. The project came about because high open market house prices were making it difficult for local people to stay in the community in which they grew up and wanted to continue living.

The development will comprise 19 properties, a mixture of 1, 2 and 3 bedroom flats and houses. Ten of the homes will be available to rent and nine will be sold on a shared ownership basis. The scheme has just started on site and is expected to be completed towards the end of 2007.

Peter Wilcock said "I have long been a supporter of village housing projects and know that over the past 9 years, all the organisations involved have worked tirelessly to get this scheme off the ground.

Conservative-run Essex County Council is proposing to turn off most street lights in this area from 12.00 midnight until 5.00 AM.

"Local Lib Dems do not want the lights switched off where there is a threat to personal safety," said Lib Dem Cllr. Andrew Yarwood. "Street lighting reduces people's fear of crime, and prevents night time injury."

The proposal is supposedly aimed at cutting CO2 emissions, but guidelines from the Institute of Lighting Engineers show that a reduction in street lighting will not be good for the environment in the medium to long term.

A lack of lighting is likely to encourage greater car use as people will not want to walk around in the dark, causing more damage to the environment than the lighting.



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Sustainable Homes

- *The Sustainable Homes Network can give you information about solar panels for your home.*



Liberal Democrat-led Uttlesford District Council is supporting the Sustainable Homes Network, which is a community initiative that provides practical information to help householders reduce the environmental impact of their homes and gardens.

Membership is free. You can join on line at www.saffireweb.net/sustainablehomes or by writing to Sustainable Homes Network, c/o Uttlesford District Council, London Road, Saffron Walden CB11 4ER.

Money Off Your Council Tax

Uttlesford District Council has signed up to an innovative British Gas-funded scheme that offers Council Tax rebates worth up to £75 each to local residents who install energy-efficient measures in their homes. Call the Council on 01799 510510 for more details.

It matters what you think...

We need to know your problems/comments on local issues. Please write them down in the space provided below.



We may write to you from time to time to keep you informed on issues we think you may find of interest. Please let us know if you do not wish to be contacted for this purpose

Help us to help you

- I will display a poster for the Lib Dems at election time.
- I can deliver a few leaflets from time to time in my area.
- I'd like to join the Lib Dems. Please call on me.
- I enclose a donation for Focus to the "Liberal Democrats" for £ _____

A donation of £12 or more entitles you to membership of the Liberal Democrats. Please tick if you don't wish to be enrolled

Name.....
 Address.....
 Phone.....
 E-mail.....@.....